

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A composite which is obtained by heating and drying of a mixture of a carrier in powder form, and a metal hydroxide in powder form or in molten form, wherein the heating is carried out at a temperature of not less than 80°C to less than 400°C.

Claim 2 (Original): The composite according to Claim 1, wherein the heating proceeds at a temperature of not less than 80°C to less than 200°C.

Claim 3 (Original): The composite according to Claim 1, wherein the heating proceeds at a temperature of not less than 200°C to less than 400°C.

Claim 4 (Original): The composite according to Claim 1, wherein the carrier is a porous material.

Claim 5 (Original): The composite according to Claim 4, wherein the porous material is a heat resistant inorganic substance.

Claim 6 (Original): The composite according to Claim 5, wherein the heat resistant inorganic substance is silica or alumina.

Claim 7 (Original): The composite according to Claim 1, wherein the carrier is a carbonaceous material.

Claim 8 (Original): The composite according to Claim 7, wherein the carbonaceous material is coal, petroleum, an infusibilized product or heat-treated product after infusibilization of a synthetic pitch, or an active carbon.

Claim 9 (Original): The composite according to Claim 1, wherein the metal hydroxide is potassium hydroxide or sodium hydroxide.

Claim 10 (Original): The composite according to Claim 1, wherein a mean particle size of the carrier before mixing is 0.1 mm or less, and a mean particle size of the metal hydroxide is 1 mm or less.

Claim 11 (Original): The composite according to Claim 1, wherein the metal hydroxide is mixed in an amount of 1 to 1000 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of the carrier.

Claim 12 (Original): The composite according to claim 1, wherein no peak derived from metal hydroxide crystals is present in an X-ray diffraction intensity curve of the composite.

Claim 13 (Original): The composite according to Claim 1, wherein no background peak derived from water is present in an X-ray diffraction intensity curve of the composite.

Claim 14 (Original): The composite according to Claim 1, which is a catalyst for an isomerization reaction of an olefin.

Claim 15 (Original): The composite according to Claim 1, which is a catalyst for an oxidation reaction of alcohols.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): A method for manufacturing a composite, comprising:

mixing a carrier in powder form and a metal hydroxide in powder form and heating and drying the resulting mixture under a gas flow or under reduced pressure, wherein the heating is carried out at a temperature of not less than 80°C to less than 400°C.

Claim 17 (Original): The method according to claim 16, wherein the gas is air, an inert gas or a mixture thereof.

Claim 18 (Original): The method according to Claim 16, wherein the heating proceeds at a temperature of not less than 80 to less than 200°C.

Claim 19 (Original): The method according to Claim 16, wherein the heating proceeds at a temperature of not less than 200°C to less than 400°C.

Claim 20 (New): The composite according to Claim 1, wherein the heating is carried out at a temperature of not less than 80°C to 380°C.

Claim 21 (New): The method according to Claim 16, wherein the heating is carried out at a temperature of from not less than 80°C to 380°C.

Claim 22 (New): The composite according to Claim 1, wherein heating and drying is carried out in an inert gas flow and wherein the composite does not have a peak for the metal hydroxide in the X-ray diffraction intensity curve.

Claim 23 (New): The method according to Claim 16, wherein heating and drying are carried out under an inert gas flow and wherein the composite does not have a peak for the metal hydroxide in the X-ray diffraction intensity curve.

Claim 24 (New): The composite according to Claim 22, wherein the inert gas is at least one of nitrogen or argon.

Claim 25 (New): The method according to Claim 23, wherein the inert gas is at least one of nitrogen or argon.

Claim 26 (New): A method comprising  
contacting an olefin with the composite according to Claim 1 to isomerize the olefin.

Claim 27 (New): The method according to Claim 26, wherein contacting includes heating the olefin in the presence of the composite.

Claim 28 (New): A method comprising  
contacting an alcohol with the composite of Claim 1 to oxidize the alcohol.

Claim 29 (New): The method as claimed in Claim 28, wherein contacting includes heating the alcohol in the presence of the composite.

BASIS FOR THE AMENDMENT

Claims 1-29 are active in the present application. Claims 20-29 are new claims. Independent Claims 1 and 16 have been amended to limit the temperature of the heating to from 80 to 400°C. Support for the amendment is found in original Claims 2 and 3. Support for new Claims 20 and 21 is found in the Examples. Support for new Claims 22 and 23 is found in the original claims. Support for new Claims 24 and 25 is found on page 6, lines 7-13. Support for new Claim 26 is found on page 9, lines 12-13. Support for new Claim 27 is found in Example 8 on page 15. Support for new Claim 28 is found on page 10, lines 4-5. Support for new Claim 29 is found on page 17, lines 1-7. No new matter is believed to have been added by this amendment.